United Nations S/2005/429

Security Council

Distr.: General
1 July 2005

Original: English

Letter dated 29 June 2005 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Nigeria to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

In my capacity as representative of the current Chairman of the African Union, I have the honour to transmit herewith two communiqués regarding the situation in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (annex I) and the Central African Republic (annex II) adopted at the 33rd meeting of the Peace and Security Council of the African Union, held in Addis Ababa on 24 June 2005.

I should be grateful if the present letter and its annexes could be circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Simeon A. **Adekanye**
Ambassador
Acting Permanent Representative

05-40813 (E) 140705

Annex I to the letter dated 29 June 2005 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Nigeria to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

Communiqué of the 33rd meeting of the Peace and Security Council

The Peace and Security Council of the African Union (AU), at its 33rd meeting, held on 24 June 2005, adopted the following decision on the follow-up to the decision of the 23rd meeting of the Peace and Security Council on the situation in eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo and the relations between the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Rwanda:

Council,

1. **Welcomes** the efforts deployed by the Commission to ensure follow-up on decision PSC/AHG/Comm.(XXIII) on the disarmament and neutralization of the ex-FAR/Interahamwe and other armed groups in eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo, adopted at its 23rd meeting held in Libreville on 10 January 2005;

2. **Takes note** of the results of the fact-finding mission dispatched by the Chairperson of the Commission to the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Rwanda, and to the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda, in Arusha (United Republic of Tanzania), from 27 February to 8 March 2005, as well as the conclusions of the consultative meeting on the disarmament and neutralization of the ex-FAR/Interahamwe and other armed groups in eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo, and of the meeting of military experts of member States of the Peace and Security Council Military Staff Committee and the AU Committee on the Democratic Republic of the Congo, held in Addis Ababa on 15 and 16 March 2005 and on 22 April 2005, respectively, as contained in the report of the Chairperson of the Commission on the follow-up on the decision of the 23rd meeting of the Peace and Security Council on the situation in eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo and the relations between the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Rwanda [PSC/PR/2(XXXIII)];

3. **Expresses delight** at the current momentum in the region as evidenced by the return of confidence between the countries of the region thanks in particular to the progressive establishment of the joint mechanisms agreed upon between the various parties. Council notes with satisfaction the smooth functioning of the Joint Verification Teams put in place within the framework of the Joint Verification Mechanism agreed between the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Rwanda in New York, on 22 September 2004, and urges that efforts be intensified towards the implementation of the recommendations of the Joint Verification Teams.

4. **Expresses satisfaction** at the adoption, on 30 March 2005, of resolution 1592 (2005) by the United Nations Security Council, especially paragraphs 5 and 7 thereof, relating to the disarmament of foreign combatants by the armed forces of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, with the support of MONUC, and the execution by MONUC of its mandate under resolution 1565 (2004) of 1 October 2004 in the eastern part of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, and **affirms** AU's readiness to work closely with MONUC in defining its role in the region in support for efforts to further peace in eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo;

5. **Notes with concern** that, nearly three months after the publication of the Rome Declaration of 31 March 2005, by which the Democratic Forces for the Liberation of Rwanda (FDLR), among other things, made a commitment to renounce the armed struggle, join in the process of the voluntary disarmament and return peacefully to Rwanda, no commencement of the implementation of their commitments has yet been observed on ground, despite the facilities put in place by MONUC towards this end, including the opening of several transit camps. Council further notes with concern the intensification of the armed attacks and other acts of violence against the population of the two Kivus, as well as against the armed forces of the Democratic Republic of the Congo present in the region;

6. **Requests** to get the leaders of the FDLR to honour fully, unconditionally and without delay the commitments contained in the Rome Declaration, Council encourages the Government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, the other countries of the region and the other members of the international community to do their utmost to get the FDLR to honour their commitments as entered into in the Rome Declaration, without delay and unconditionally;

7. **Reiterates** the AU's determination to contribute to the effective disarmament and neutralization of the ex-FAR/Interahamwe and other armed groups in eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo in conformity with decision PSC/AHG/Comm.(XXIII). In this respect, Council invites member States to indicate their readiness to contribute troops to the envisaged African Force;

8. **Requests** the Chairperson of the Commission to expedite preparations towards the early deployment in the Democratic Republic of the Congo of the African Force envisaged in decision PSC/AHG/Comm.(XXIII). In this regard, Council requests the Chairperson of the Commission to urgently dispatch to the Democratic Republic of the Congo, and also to Rwanda, Burundi and Uganda, a reconnaissance mission, as recommended by the meeting of military experts of member States of the Peace and Security Council Military Staff Committee, as well as by the meeting of the AU Committee on the Democratic Republic of the Congo held in Addis Ababa on 22 April 2005, and which will include representatives of potential troop-contributing countries;

9. **Further requests** the Chairperson of the Commission to undertake the necessary consultations with the United Nations, as well as other AU partners, including the European Union, so as to keep them updated on the progress of the efforts invested to implement decision PSC/AHG/Comm.(XXIII) and mobilize their logistical, financial and technical support towards the deployment of an African Force in the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

10. **Invites** the Chairperson of the Commission, at the end of the reconnaissance mission, to submit to it a report on all aspects of the planned deployment of an African Force, including the concept of operations and the logistical and financial aspects of such a force;

11. **Decides** to remain seized of the matter.

Annex II to the letter dated 29 June 2005 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Nigeria to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

Communiqué of the 33rd meeting of the Peace and Security Council

The Peace and Security Council of the African Union, at its 33rd meeting held on 24 June 2005, adopted the following decision on the situation in the Central African Republic:

Council,

1. **Welcomes** the positive evolution of the situation in the Central African Republic, in particular the holding of legislative and presidential elections that marked the return to constitutional rule, following the coup d'état of 15 March 2003;

2. **Decides**, in light of the above, to lift the suspension of the Central African Republic from the activities of the policy organs of the AU, imposed by the Central Organ of the OAU Mechanism for Conflict Prevention, Management and Resolution, following the coup d'état of 15 March 2003;

3. **Stresses** the need for sustained support to the stabilization of the situation in the Central African Republic, in particular through the provision of significant financial and economic assistance to consolidate the progress made thus far and to facilitate the socio-economic recovery of the Central African Republic. Council **appeals** urgently to the AU member States and the international community at large to provide the necessary support to the Central African Republic to effectively address the root causes of the recurrent instability in that country;

4. **Decides** to remain seized of the matter.